

# West Region Homeland Security Strategy

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**Purpose** The West Region Homeland Security Strategy provides direction for enhancing regional capability and capacity to: prevent terrorist attacks within the Region; reduce the Region's vulnerability to terrorism and all other critical hazards; minimize the damage and recover from terrorism and all other critical hazards that affect the safety, well-being, and economic security of the citizens and residents of the Region.

The West Region Homeland Security Strategy draws guiding principles and objectives from *Securing Arizona, A Roadmap for Arizona Homeland Security*. *Securing Arizona* published by Governor Napolitano and the State Homeland Security Strategy (SHSS) published by the Arizona Office of Homeland Security.

## **Goals**

- 1) Bolster response and recovery capabilities and protect emergency responders
- 2) Provide for regional interoperability and support
- 3) Enhance and maintain assessment and detection capabilities
- 4) Create secure intelligence and information sharing systems and networks
- 5) Support national and state strategy for securing the border

**Objectives** Objectives support the SHSS goals, address threat and vulnerability and work towards enhancing capabilities. Implementation steps outline the necessary course of action to meet the objectives.

- Ensure all first responders are equipped with PPE.
- Support first responder achievement of baseline capability
- Improve and enhance communication interoperability employing standardized and interoperable state of the art equipment.
- Achieve NIMS compliance
- Support conduct of a regional risk and vulnerability assessment
- **Develop and support joint planning, training and operations among homeland security disciplines. (proposed)**
- Foster and support regional collaboration.
- Incorporate private sector.
- Conduct threat/vulnerability/risk assessments
- Develop and improve regional plans and procedures.
- Incorporate County and Tribal legal/legislative review into homeland security processes.
- Improve awareness and security on Interstate 40, 10, 17 and railways.
- Improve awareness and security on the Colorado River.
- Integrate into a coordinated federal/state/regional system for the collection, analysis and dissemination of intelligence and information.
- Use emerging technologies and expertise.
- Adopt protocols to treat disease outbreak and biological or chemical weapons attacks on population and agriculture.
- Enhance training for prevention of, response to and recovery from terrorism.
- Support exercises that advance state and regional strategies.
- Implement federal and state standards for hardening public and private key assets and critical infrastructure, including dams, power, water, communications and computers.

## **Process**

**Risk, Vulnerability and Threat Assessment** – An independent and standardized threat and vulnerability based risk assessment will be implemented throughout the state in order to assess reliable data on potential threat elements and vulnerable key assets and critical infrastructure. Assessment data will be the basis for regional homeland security jurisdiction boundaries within the State of Arizona.

**Capability Assessment** – A thorough evaluation of existing capabilities to detect and prevent threat, protect infrastructure and to respond and recover from an emergency or disaster will be employed to identify shortfalls that need to be addressed.

**Implementation Plan** – Action items will be coupled with lead and support entities for implementation and assigned timelines for completion.